

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAA-01 SSM-03
TRSE-00 /087 W
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O 251454Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1871
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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AMMAN FOR AMBASSADOR ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PEPR EG IS US
SUBJECT: UNCERTAINTY OVER LEEDS FOLLOW-UP MEETING

SUMMARY. BEGIN'S MESSAGE TO SADAT REFUSED AS "MERE REPETITION" OF PUBLIC STATEMENT. SADAT HOLDING NSC MEETING JULY 26 TO DISCUSS RECENT EVENTS AT THIS "CRITICAL" JUNCTURE. NEXT SADAT SPEECH NOW SCHEDULED FOR JULY 27.

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BEGIN SEEN ON DEFENSIVE IN KNESSET DEBATE. EDITORIAL ATTACKS ON BEGIN'S "ARROGANT POLICY" AND "SICK FANTASIES" CONTINUE. STATEMENT BY MFA OFFICIAL THAT NO FURTHER TRILATERAL MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE UNLESS VANCE "INSURES US ISRAELIS MEAN BUSINESS," SUGGESTS GROWING IMPATIENCE WITH U.S. ROLE. END SUMMARY.

1. REFUSAL OF MESSAGE. AHRAM JULY 25 "LEARNED" GOE HAD DECLINED TO ACCEPT MESSAGE FROM BEGIN. "RESPONSIBLE SOURCE" EXPLAINED MESSAGE, WHICH ASKED FOR HIGH-LEVEL MEETING, WAS "MERE REPETITION" OF WHAT ISRAEL HAD DECLARED IN PAST FEW DAYS AND THEREFORE NOT CONSIDERED REAL MESSAGE. (COMMENT: MFA OFFICIAL TOLD AMERICAN JOURNALISTS REASONS WERE SADAT CAN NO LONGER STAND BEGIN AND CONTENTS HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE PUBLIC FOLLOWING ISRAELI CABINET MEETING.)

2. NSC MEETING. MAIN STORY IN GUMHURIYYA AND AKHBAR IS SADAT'S CALL FOR NSC MEETING IN ALEXANDRIA JULY 26 TO DISCUSS LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN MIDDLE EAST, LEEDS AND VIENNA MEETINGS, VISITS BY SECRETARY AND ATHERTON, RESULTS OF OAU SUMMIT, AND NAC. PRESS SAID MEETING COMING AT "CRITICAL" TIME DUE TO "ISRAELI INTRANSIGENCE." SADAT NOW TO SPEAK IN ALEXANDRIA JULY 27 VICE 26.

3. MUBARAK IN PARIS. PRESS ALSO HIGHLIGHTED MUBARAK'S STATEMENTS IN PARIS IN WHICH HE DENIED THERE WOULD BE JOINT FOREIGN/DEFENSE MINISTERS MEETING OR EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI SUMMIT; AFFIRMED EGYPT PREPARED FOR FURTHER MEETINGS ONLY IF THERE SOMETHING NEW FROM ISRAEL; AND REJECTED ISRAELI SOVEREIGNTY OVER ARAB TERRITORIES UNDER PRETEXT OF SECURITY. MUBARAK ALSO SAID ISRAELI CABINET RESHUFFLE WOULD NOT NECESSARILY FACILITATE PEACE PROCESS

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AND THAT EGYPT WOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH SUCH MATTERS.

4. PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE IN ISRAEL. "SHARP" DEBATE IN KNESSET IS MAIN STORY IN AHRAM WHICH HIGHLIGHTED ALLON'S REPORTED CALL FOR BEGIN TO RESIGN AND HIS ALLEGED STATEMENTS THAT BEGIN'S POLICY HAD MADE WASHINGTON ADOPT EGYPTIAN VIEWPOINT AND WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR DECLINE OF TRUST IN ISRAEL IN U.S., PARTICULARLY IN JEWISH COMMUNITY. AHRAM ALSO REPORTED DAYAN'S REMARKS TO KNESSET, PLACING ON FRONT PAGE DAYAN'S REPETITION OF EGYPTIAN POSITIONS AT LEEDS. ON BACK PAGE DAYAN'S AFFIRMATION OF ISRAELI POSITIONS IS REPORTED, INCLUDING ADMISSION THAT "SHARP DIFFERENCE" EXISTS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND U.S. REGARDING WITHDRAWAL FROM WEST BANK.

5. U.S. AHRAM'S LEVON KASHISHIAN REPORTS HODDING CARTER STATEMENT THAT SECRETARY VANCE "EXPECTS AND HOPES" ANOTHER MEETING WILL BE HELD, BUT NO VENUE DECIDED UPON. SPOKESMAN REPORTEDLY SAID HE WOULD NOT EXPECT VANCE TO GO TO MIDDLE EAST BEFORE AGREEMENT IS REACHED. KASHISHIAN ALSO REPORTS ALLEGED BEGIN

STATEMENT THAT HE HAD RECEIVED MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY INFORMING HE WILL BE VISITING JERUSALEM AUGUST 5-7 AND THAT HE WILL THEN PROCEED TO CAIRO "ON A ONE OR TWO DAY VISIT." ACCORDING KASHISHIAN, BEGIN ALSO SAID VANCE WILL MEET WITH PARTIES CONCERNED ON AUGUST 9 OR 10 FOR 48 HOURS AT THE AMERICAN EARLY WARNING STATION IN SINAI.

6. KAMEL TO AMMAN. FORMIN KAMEL WILL FLY TO AMMAN TOMORROW FOR TALKS WITH KING HUSSEIN ON LATEST DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING WEST BANK AND PALESTINIAN ISSUE.

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AMMAN FOR AMBASSADOR ATHERTON

7. EDITORIALS. DIRECT ATTACKS ON BEGIN CONTINUE WITH AHRAM CRITICIZING HIM FOR IMAGINING HIS "ARROGANT POLICY" AND "SICK DREAMS" CAN BRING PEACE THROUGH DOMINATION

AND EXPANSION. BEGIN'S "SICK FANTASIES" MAKE HIM IMAGINE HE CAN OBTAIN CONCESSIONS, BUT HIS "EXPANSIONIST FASCIST" POLICIES WILL ACHIEVE NOTHING. ANIS MANSOUR IN SUNDAY'S OCTOBER SAID "BEGIN'S TRUE, UGLY FACE WAS REVEALED AFTER PEACE INITIATIVE AND ALTHOUGH HE TRIED TO RETREAT, THE

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JEWS OF THE WORLD AND ISRAEL STAND AGAINST HIM." EGYPT ATTENDED LEEDS AT U.S. REQUEST BUT WAS ALSO ABLE TO MAKE AMERICA A THIRD PARTY AND "MADE AMERICA REALIZE ISRAEL'S INCREASED EVASIVENESS." MANSOUR CLAIMS PERES LEARNED THE TRUTH FROM SADAT AND NOW OPPOSITION TO BEGIN HAS INCREASED AND THERE ARE CALLS FOR HIS DOWNFALL. BEGIN'S STAND HAD LED TO ESCALATION OF HOSTILE FEELING AMONG THE JEWS THEMSELVES. "ARABS ARE CHARGED WITH ANTI-SEMITISM, BUT ACCUSATION FALLS TODAY ON THE JEWS THEMSELVES FOR THERE IS NO ONE WHO IS MORE OF AN ENEMY TO THE JEWS THAN THE JEWS THEMSELVES--PARTICULARLY BEGIN."

8. SENIOR MFA OFFICIAL TELLING RELIABLE AMERICAN JOURNALISTS THERE WILL BE NO TRILATERAL MEETING UNLESS SECRETARY VANCE "CAN ASSURE US ISRAELIS MEAN BUSINESS AND IN WHAT AREAS. IT WILL NOT SUFFICE TO SAY MEETING WILL BE PROFITABLE."

9. COMMENT. IN INTERVAL BETWEEN LEEDS MEETING AND ANTICIPATED FOLLOW-UP, PRESS, TAKING ITS LEAD FROM SADAT, ATTEMPTING TO ISOLATE BEGIN AS "ONLY OBSTACLE" TO SETTLEMENT. THIS IS APPARENTLY BEING DONE IN HOPES OF INTENSIFYING POLITICAL FERMENT INSIDE ISRAEL, MUBARAK DISCLAIMER NOTWITHSTANDING. THERE IS LIKEWISE EVIDENCE THAT EGYPTIAN IMPATIENCE WITH U.S. ROLE, AT LEAST AT WORKING LEVEL, ON THE INCREASE. EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Errors: N/A
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SAS ID: 1887616
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNCERTAINTY OVER LEEDS FOLLOW-UP MEETING SUMMARY. BEGIN'S MESSAGE TO SADAT REFUSED AS \"MERE REPETITION\" OF PUBLIC STATEMENT. SADAT HOLDING NS
TAGS: PEPER, EG, IS, US, (SADAT, ANWAR), (BEGIN, MANACHEM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2100e76c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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